

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TRIPOL 00804 201001Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4487
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY TUNIS
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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: LY, US
SUBJ: LIBYAN MEDIA CRITICIZES STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN

REF: TRIPOLI 0785 (NOTAL)

1. THE INITIAL POSITIVE AND OPTIMISTIC TONE WITH WHICH
LIBYA'S OFFICIAL CONTROLLED MEDIA WAS EXTENSIVELY
REPORTING DEPARTMENT SPOEKSMAN'S REMARKS ON US-LIBYAN
RELATIONS HAVE NOW GIVEN WAY TO SHARP AND BITTER CRITICISM.
QUOTING LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY (ARNA) POLITICAL EDITOR, TRIPOLI
RADIO OBSERVED THAT SPOKESMAN CARTER'S STATEMENTS INDICATE
THAT THE US UNDERSTANDING OF LIBYA IS BASED ON RUMORS AND
SKETCHY INFORMATION. HE ADDED THAT, IF THE JUNE 13 STATE-
MENT REPRESENTED BASIS OF US POLICY, THEN "IT ONLY CALLS
FOR SURPRISE AND PITY," AND OBSERVED THAT US SPOKESMAN
HAD NO DOCUMENTS ON WHICH TO BASE ANSWERS ON US-LIBYAN
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RELATIONS. MOREOVER, US SPOEKSMAN DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE
ABOUT CARLOS BEING LIBYA.

2. ARNA EDITOR ASSERTED THAT, IF THE US UNDER LEADER-
SHIP OF PRESIDENT CARTER REQUIRED LIBYA TO GIVE UP
SUPPORT FOR JUST STRUGGLE OF PALESTINIANS IN ORDER TO
IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH US, THEN LIBYA WOULD CONTINUE

TO IGNORE SUCH RELATIONS. ARNA EDITOR CONTINUED THAT LIBYA SIMILARLY WILL NOT CEASE SUPPORT FOR STRUGGLES OF PEOPLE OF SOUTHERN AFRICA. ARNA EDITOR QUESTIONS WHETHER HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY OF NEW ADMINISTRATION APPLIED TO ARABS AND ARICANS. US SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL UNDER ITS CURRENT LEADERSHIP BY KNOWN TERRORISTS IS IN SHARP CONTRAST TO CALL FOR OPPOSING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM ARNA ADDED.

3. ISSUE OF AIRCRAFT IS AGAIN MENTIONED IN CONTEXT OF FAILURE OF US TO KEEP ITS PROMISES. THE JAMAHIRIYAH, ACCORDING TO ARNA EDITOR, REJECTS DICTATION AND THE IMPOSITION OF TUTELAGE. IT WILL BEFRIEND THOSE WHO BEFRIEND IT AND ANTAGONIZE THOSE WHO ANTAGONZIE IT.

4. WE SUSPECT THAT EARLY OPTIMISTIC REPORTS OF DEPT SPOKESMAN'S REMARKS WERE BASED ON INCOMPLETE AND PERHAPS MISLEADING REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON. IT IS

CLEAR THAT COMPLETE TEXT IS NOW IN TRIPOLI AND HAS BEEN READ BEYOND FIRST PARAGRAPH. NEVERTHELESS, INITIAL ATTEMPT AT POSITIVE INTERPRETATION DOES INDICATE IMPORTANCE LIBYA ATTACHES TO BETTER RELATIONS WITH US.
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Message Attributes

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